

BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR



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Catalytic Converter Recycler to Bring 98 Jobs, \$4.5 Million Investment to Burke County

State Grant Helps VSA LLC Locate in Morganton

RALEIGH – Gov. Bev Perdue today announced that VSA LLC, a recycler of automotive catalytic converters, will locate its production plant in Burke County. The company plans to create 98 jobs and invest \$4.5 million during the next two years in Morganton. The project was made possible in part by a \$98,000 performance-based grant from the One North Carolina Fund.

“North Carolina is a national leader in the green economy sector, attracting growing, innovative companies like this one,” said Gov. Perdue. “Our skilled workers, custom training programs and highly rated business climates remain top draws for businesses seeking the best location to create jobs, invest and develop new environmentally friendly technologies.”

VSA has its headquarters and a pilot plant in Morganton. The company has completed research and development operations and initial production work on its recycling process for catalytic converters, which are devices that reduce toxic emissions from internal combustion engines. The company plans to expand into a larger facility in Morganton for full-scale industrial operations.

Salaries will vary by job function, but the annual average wage for the new jobs will be \$30,186, not including benefits. That is above the Burke County average annual wage of \$28,964.

“We selected Morganton, N.C., for its proximity to major highways and because it has one of the cheapest energy costs in the country,” said Financial Director Alex Styagov. “We were also pleased by the low property taxes, abundance of industrial space, a highly qualified workforce and city, county and state business incentive programs.”